

Foreign Newsmen Scorn Police Actions, Security

Dispatches Bristling with Criticism

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP) — Foreign newsmen from East and West have heaped scorn and mockery on police actions and security measures at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. Dispatches to their papers bristle with references to "storm

troopers" and "concentration camps."

Winston S. Churchill, who like his famous grandfather is starting life as a correspondent, wrote in the London Evening News:

"The Chicago police department are primitive in their actions and mulish in their mentality. Journalistic sorties in the past have taken me to Aden, Yemen, Angola, the Congo, Borneo, Vietnam and Israel. In

none of these did I feel the necessity of wearing a steel helmet. I now rather regret not having brought with me the one I picked up in the Sinai Desert a year ago."

ROUGHLY HANDLED

The 27-year-old Churchill reported he was roughly handled by police in an identification hassle at his Chicago hotel.

John Pilger of the London Daily Mirror wrote, "We are convened in a building called the International Amphitheater which stands beside the Chicago stockyards where the cattle and the pigs are surrounded by an ordinary fence and we, the people are surrounded by barbed wire and by soldiers and police and deputy sheriffs and Secret Service men with guns and tanks and planes at the ready and little canisters of spray which, when squirted, disable the body and the mind."

The London Sun had this from Jon Dodd: "There is an almost unbelievable audacity of thought that the world is prepared to accept a leader who is chosen in circumstances that resemble a concentration camp that is colloquially referred to

as Stalag '68."

'LOST THE FAITH'

In the Soviet press, Melor Sturua of the government newspaper Izvestia wrote: "This is an America that has lost the faith and is not finding it again . . . The barbed-wire fences around the International Amphitheater are only the last cosmetic stroke on the face of a city that is crisscrossed with scars of Negro riots and strike."

Correspondents Harry Freeman and S. Losev of the Soviet news agency Tass wrote, "In an attempt to conceal their brutality from the public, the police have made news correspondents and photographers a special target of their attacks. At least 21 representatives of news media have been injured, several seriously. The police have also confiscated films showing police clubbings."

WOMEN POLICE

The correspondent of Tokyo's Asahi Shimbun said, "The U.S. Democratic party convention is being held in a city that resembles a fortress, unlike any police security known in American history. . . . There are plenty of women police, too. They are packing pistols. Police and FBI agents are posted on the roof, in the ceiling, in the basement and in the toilets of the convention hall."

The Paris newspaper France Soir had this from its correspondent Aldabert de Segonzac: "The Democratic conventions are always by far the most picturesque because the party is often deeply divided. This time its different wings are almost at war. Wall manifestos appear, like in China, edited in general by the 'new left.'"

Writing in Hamburg's Die Welt, Heinz Barth said, "It is one of the distressing symptoms of this neurotic convention that in dozens of speeches and hours-long debates the word Czechoslovakia wasn't mentioned once."